

National Center Quick-Look

Infant Child Abuse and Neglect Deaths



Collect

The National Center for Fatality Review and Prevention collects information on child abuse and neglect in the National Fatality Review Case Reporting System (CRS).



Data

From 2004 to 2017 there have been over 4,600 child abuse and neglect deaths among infants reviewed and entered in the CRS by participating teams.¹



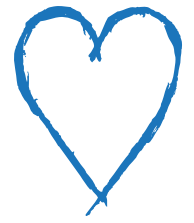
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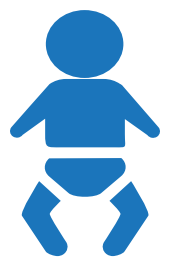
Demographics



For every **10** abuse or neglect infant deaths, **6** were boys and **4** were girls



77% of infants with health insurance information recorded had Medicaid



76% of infants were less than **6** months of age at the time of death

Sex

Male 57%

Female 43%

Race/Ethnicity

White 40%

Black 32%

Hispanic 20%

Other 8%

Investigation and Social Characteristics

75% 8 in 10 occurred in the infant's home

33% 3 in 10 had evidence of prior abuse identified during death investigation

67% 7 in 10 had child protective services (CPS) action taken as a result of the infant's death

31% 3 in 10 had a history of child maltreatment prior to death

17% 2 in 10 had an open CPS case at time of death

16% 2 in 10 had siblings placed outside the home prior to infant's death

Person Responsible



Male

6 in 10 Male (60%)



Mid-Twenties

Average age 26.6 years;
median 25 years



Biological Parent

8 in 10 Biological parent
(84%)

Other Persons

Mom's partner (5%)

Other relative (3%)

Other person (7%)

Physical Abuse

41% were due to physical abuse

32% of physical abuse were triggered by crying

70% of physical abuse included abusive head trauma

Neglect

59% were due to neglect

54% of neglect deaths were due to injury/external causes

70% of these were due to asphyxia

16% were failure to seek/follow medical treatment

Prevention Resources

Community resources from CDC

<https://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/childabuseandneglect/prevention.html>

April is National Child Abuse Prevention Month

<https://www.childwelfare.gov/topics/preventing/preventionmonth/>

Technical Package from CDC

<https://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/pdf/can-prevention-technical-package.pdf>

Tips sheets from Administration for Children & Families

<https://www.childwelfare.gov/topics/preventing/preventionmonth/resources/tip-sheets/>

Tip sheets from Children's Alliance

<https://ctfalliance.org/partnering-with-parents/parent-voice/>

Key Equity Terms & Concepts from Center for the Study of Social Policy

<https://cssp.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/09/Key-Equity-Terms-and-Concepts-vol1.pdf>

National Center for Fatality Review & Prevention Supporting Fetal and Infant Mortality Review and Child Death Review Teams

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1 Includes data from deaths of infants who died by child abuse or neglect from 2004 to 2017, recorded in the CRS, and reviewed by fatality review teams. Some percentages may not add up to 100% due to rounding.

These data represent a smaller percent of the cases entered into the CRS. For more information about the data contained in this Quick-Look, please visit https://www.ncfrp.org/wp-content/uploads/NCRPCD-Docs/NCFRP_Quick_Looks_Analysis.pdf